

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 12-15, 17, 23-25, 33-36, 38, 39, 42-53, 55-60, 74 and 75 have been allowed, and that dependent claim 31 is indicated as reciting allowable subject matter.

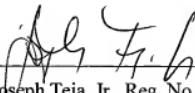
Accordingly, without acceding to the propriety of any rejection set forth in the Office Action, and solely to expedite prosecution toward allowance, claim 31 has been re-written in independent form to include the subject matter of its base claim (claim 27), and all rejected claims, namely claims 18-20, 27-30 and 32, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the foregoing, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' representative at the telephone number indicated below to discuss any outstanding issues relating to the allowability of the application.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825, Reference No. C1104.70089US00.

Dated: April 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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